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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing, U. S. D. A.

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March 24, 1960

Slightly Lower Crop Acreage

Acreage planted to crops this year is expected to be only slightly below last year. Farmers planting intentions March 1 (with allowances made for crops not included in the March intentions summary) indicate a total of about 337 million acres. This would be less than a million acres below the 1959 acreage.

Principal Changes From Last Year

Feed grain acreage is indicated a little smaller than last year, with about the same acreage of corn and sorghums but less oats and barley. Food grain acreage is also expected to show a small reduction, with less spring wheat but about the same acreage of winter wheat and rice. Soybean plantings are expected to rise to near the record acreage reached in 1958.

Here is a rundown of prospective acreages, showing the percentage change for this year compared with last:

Crop	Planted 1959	Indicated 1960	Increase or Decrease
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Corn, all	85,530	85,758	+0.3
All spring wheat	13,431	12,817	-4.6
Durum	1,283	1,726	+34.5
Other Spring	12,148	11,091	-8.7
Oates	36,141	34,273	-5.2
Barley	16,990	16,386	-3.6
Flaxseed	3,482	3,469	-.4
Rice	1,607	1,611	+.2
Sorghums	19,886	19,800	-.4
Potatoes, all	1,416	1,438	+1.5
Sweet potatoes	286	242	-15.6
Tobacco ¹	1,154	1,156	+.2
Beans, dry edible	1,557	1,536	-1.3
Peas, dry field	318	316	-.6
Soybeans	23,178	24,667	+6.4
Peanuts	1,653	1,613	-2.4
Hay	69,404	69,083	-.5
Sugar Beets	946	981	+3.6

¹ Acreage harvested

Feed Grain Acreage Down 1 Percent

The March intentions report indicates plantings of feed grains will total 156 million acres, 1 percent less than in 1959.

One Percent Smaller Wheat Acreage

Total wheat plantings are indicated at 57.2 million acres, about 1 percent below last year. Winter wheat acreage, at 44.4 million acres, is nearly the same as last year, spring wheat seedling expected to drop 5 percent.

Wheat Crop May Total 1.1 Billion Bushels

If growers fulfill their planting intentions and yields per planted acre this year equal the 1955-59 average, by States, an all spring wheat crop of 230 million bushels would be produced.

Based on conditions as of December 1, 1959, a winter wheat crop of 926 million bushels was forecast for 1960. These add to a possible all wheat crop of 1,156 million bushels, compared with the all wheat production of 1,128 million bushels in 1959.

Largest Rice Acreage Since 1955

Intended acreage in rice this year, at 1.6 million acres, is slightly above 1959 and the largest since 1955, though 14 percent below average.

If intended seedings materialize and yields per acre equal the 1955-59 average, by States, the 1960 production of rice would be 50 million bags (100 lb.) 5 percent less than the 1959 crop.

Hay Acreage Little Change

March intentions indicate farmers expect to cut hay from about 69.1 million acres, nearly the same as in 1959 but down from the average by 7 percent.

Hay production this season, at average yields by States, would amount to about 110 million tons or 2 percent less than last year's production.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Jan. 15 1960	Feb. 15 1960	Based on data for Feb. 1960
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) ct.	29.34	28.08	38.63
Wheat (bu.)	1.78	1.80	2.37
Rice (100 lb.)	4.77	4.83	5.92
Corn (bu.) .....	.979	.995	1.63
Peanuts (lb.)	10.1	10.9	12.9
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)	59.7	59.2	73.9
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) dol.	4.36	¹ 4.25	¹ 4.99
Wool (lb.)	² 42.5	² 42.8	74.2
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) .....	.848	.860	1.27
Cottonseed (ton)	39.60	39.60	67.00
Flaxseed (bu.)	3.12	3.00	3.83
Hay, baled (ton)	22.20	22.50	25.00
Oats (bu.) .....	.685	.678	.840
Potatoes (cwt.)	2.10	2.13	2.33
Rye (bu.) .....	.925	.944	1.49
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.) dol.	1.53	1.53	2.50
Soybeans (bu.)	2.01	1.99	2.91
Sweet potatoes (cwt.)	3.51	3.35	5.50
Oranges, on tree (box)	2.06	2.31	2.13
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) dol.	2.14	2.16	2.48
Beef cattle (100 lb.)	20.30	20.60	23.70
Calves (100 lb.)	24.00	24.70	26.20
Hogs (100 lb.)	12.10	13.00	21.30
Lambs (100 lb.)	17.80	18.60	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.)	16.3	16.9	25.7
Eggs (dozen)	29.6	28.9	46.3

¹ Preliminary.

² Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

Farmers May Alter Plans Before Planting

Acreages actually planted to crops in 1960 may turn out to be larger or smaller than indicated. Various reasons, such as weather, the agricultural program, and price changes, lead farmers to alter their plans. The Crop Reporting Board issues the intentions report in order to assist growers in making such further acreage changes as may appear desirable.

Slight Increase in Tobacco Acreage

The intentions indicate a total tobacco acreage of 1,156,200 acres--only slightly above the 1,153,800 acres harvested last year.

This year's expected total includes: flue-cured 697,400 acres about same as last year; burley 301,400 acres, no significant change from last year; Maryland (type 32) 38,000 acres, unchanged from last year; fire-cured 35,400 acres compared with 35,100 last year; dark air-cured (types 35-37) 15,400 acres, little change; cigar filler 36,000 acres, about 1,100 acres more than

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1959			1960	
	Feb.	Yr.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	58.0	59.7	60.9	59.4	59.9
Farm employment	5.7	7.4	5.3	5.0	5.7
Family	4.6	5.5	4.3	4.1	4.6
Hired	1.1	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.1
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	154	159	165	168	167
Total personal income payments ³	182	187	193	193	-
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	160	167	175	176	173
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	166	169	174	174	172
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	120	120	119	119	119
Farm commodities	91	89	86	86	87
Food, processed	108	107	105	106	106
Consumer price index ⁴	124	125	126	125	-
Food	118	118	118	118	-
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers	243	240	228	231	233
Crops	218	221	217	219	219
Food grains	203	202	206	206	208
Feed grains and hay	154	156	149	151	153
Cotton	238	264	254	248	237
Tobacco	505	504	491	486	493
Oil bearing crops	221	219	215	216	216
Fruit	225	214	198	202	222
Vegetables	268	241	258	264	250
Livestock and products	265	255	238	242	244
Meat animals	322	312	264	278	286
Dairy products	258	254	274	266	260
Poultry and eggs	159	142	148	144	142
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities	275	275	275	275	276
Used in living	288	289	291	290	289
Used in production	267	266	264	265	266
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	297	298	297	299	299
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted ..	610	612	602	632	632
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	82	80	77	77	78

last year's harvest; cigar binder 18,400 acres, 3 percent below last year; and cigar wrapper 14,000 acres, up 1 percent from last year's harvested acreage.

Spring Farrowings Down 13 Percent

Number of sows farrowed and intended to farrow this spring (December through May) in 10 of the Corn Belt States, estimated at 5,297,000 head, is 13 percent below both a year earlier and the 10-year average. Farrowings are down in all 10 States (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, and Kansas). The 10 States accounted for 73 percent of the 1959 U. S. pig crop.

More Oranges, Fewer Grapefruit

Season's orange crop, at 133 million boxes, is up about 3 percent from last season. Estimate includes 68.2 million of Early, Midseason and Navel oranges and 64.4 million of Valencias. Grapefruit production, at 42.8 million boxes, is about an average crop but down 2 percent from last year. Lemon crop, at 17.9 million boxes, will top last year by 3 percent.

Almost half the orange crop had been harvested by March 1, about 62 percent of the grapefruit, about one-third of the lemons.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	January 1959	January 1960
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk	Bil. lb.	1 19.2	119.5
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	143.5	132.9
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food)	Mil. lb.	138.2	149.0
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	116.3	118.8
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	65.7	63.3
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	43.4	45.6
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs	Billions	1 10.5	1 10.4
Poultry meat ²	Mil. lb.	402	409
Canned poultry	Mil. lb.	23.2	24.4
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	37.2	43.7
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	3.2	2.9
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	22.4	30.9
Chicks hatched, total ³	Millions	1 401.4	1 383.2
Chicks hatched, broiler ³	Millions	1 304.2	1 321.2
Poults hatched ³			
Heavy breeds	Millions	1 7.0	1 10.0
Light breeds	Millions	1 2.9	1 1.3
<u>Meat Production²</u> (dressed weight)			
Beef	Mil. lb.	1,127	1,192
Veal	Mil. lb.	77	78
Pork	Mil. lb.	965	1,054
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	75	68
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	2,244	2,392
<u>Slaughter²</u>			
Cattle	1,000 head	1,915	2,031
Calves	1,000 head	676	647
Hogs	1,000 head	7,030	7,780
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	1,495	1,376

¹ January-February. ² Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

³ By commercial hatcheries.

¹ Bureau of the Census.
² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.
⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics.

6 Percent More Winter Vegetables

Winter vegetable production was forecast March 1 at 6 percent above last year and 4 percent more than average--substantially more winter cabbage, carrots and lettuce; smaller winter crops of celery, tomatoes, sweet corn, and snap beans.

Smaller Crop of Winter Potatoes; Larger Spring Acreage Than Last Year

The 1960 winter crop of potatoes was placed on March 1 at 3,014,000 hundredweight compared with 4,005,000 cwt. a year ago and 4,190,000 cwt. for the 10-year average. Plantings for the early spring crop in Florida and Texas of 28,100 acres were 10 percent above both the 1959 acreage and average.

Potato Stocks Down From Year Ago

Total storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers on March 1, 1960 amounted to 56.3 million hundredweight. These holdings were 9 percent below the March 1, 1959 stocks, but 6 percent above the 10-year average March 1 stocks.

Egg Production Down From Year Ago

Hens laid 5,082 million eggs in February, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Number of layers on March 1 totaled 305,301,000, compared with 316,353,000 a year earlier.

Poultry Prices Lower, Except Broilers

Farmers averaged 28.9 cents a dozen for eggs in mid-February compared with 35.8 cents a year earlier. Farm chickens averaged 11.6 cents a pound, liveweight, in mid-February, down 1.5 cents from a year earlier. Commercial broilers brought 17.7 cents, up 0.5 cents from mid-February 1959. Turkeys, liveweight, averaged 25.7 per pound compared with 24.9 cents a year earlier.

Feeding More Favorable for Broilers, Turkeys; Less Favorable for Eggs and Farm Chickens

Broiler-feed and turkey-feed ratios were more favorable to farmers in mid-February than a year earlier, but the egg-feed and chicken-feed ratios were less favorable.

Broiler growing mash averaged \$4.70 per 100 pounds compared with \$4.94 a year earlier; turkey growing mash cost \$4.68, down 24 cents from a year earlier. At \$3.34 per 100 pounds, the cost of the farm poultry ration was down 7 cents from a year earlier.

More Milk Than a Year Ago

Milk production in February totaled 9,679 million pounds compared with 9,373 million a year earlier and the 10-year average of 8,708 million. Relative to population, February milk production was at the rate of 1.87 pounds per capita per day--2 percent below February last year, and 3 percent below the average for the month.

January-February production amounts to 19,541 million pounds, up 2 percent from the 19,227 million pounds for the same period last year.

Hops Stocks Up From Year Ago

Stocks of hops, in the U. S. March 1 totaled 46,070,000 pounds. This compared with 40,290,000 pounds a year earlier and 19,070,000 pounds on Sept. 1, 1959.

Number of Farms Down 2 Percent

Number of farms in operation in the U. S. in 1959 totaled 4,641,000--2 percent less than in 1958 and about the same reduction as in other recent years. For breakdown by States, see "Number of Farms by States 1957-1959" issued by Crop Reporting Board, AMS, USDA, Feb. 26, 1960.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, January 1960¹

State	Livestock and products	Crop	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	8,607	9,407	18,014
New Hampshire	4,208	842	5,050
Vermont	8,523	654	9,177
Massachusetts	8,851	3,638	12,489
Rhode Island	1,151	504	1,655
Connecticut	8,436	4,938	13,374
New York	49,601	15,308	64,909
New Jersey	14,254	3,795	18,049
Pennsylvania	47,209	15,122	62,331
Ohio	48,654	27,389	76,043
Indiana	54,054	33,672	87,726
Illinois	91,792	95,386	187,178
Michigan	31,709	23,098	54,807
Wisconsin	81,082	12,121	93,203
Minnesota	84,320	41,090	125,410
Iowa	144,432	84,815	229,247
Missouri	50,299	24,113	74,412
North Dakota	14,605	30,565	45,170
South Dakota	37,101	10,223	47,324
Nebraska	61,985	69,186	131,171
Kansas	41,749	58,744	100,493
Delaware	5,342	1,106	6,448
Maryland	14,948	2,748	17,732
Virginia	15,680	10,168	25,848
West Virginia	5,475	1,166	7,191
North Carolina	20,228	13,682	33,910
South Carolina	8,757	9,661	18,418
Georgia	28,958	12,166	41,124
Florida	17,316	86,906	104,222
Kentucky	19,103	34,605	53,707
Tennessee	16,865	22,602	38,927
Alabama	20,969	10,702	31,671
Mississippi	18,525	25,736	44,261
Arkansas	15,299	31,996	47,295
Louisiana	12,000	17,265	29,265
Oklahoma	21,885	19,432	41,317
Texas	62,853	138,969	201,822
Montana	13,925	22,717	36,642
Idaho	15,525	22,203	37,728
Wyoming	4,388	3,335	7,723
Colorado	24,884	23,492	48,376
New Mexico	5,000	13,629	18,629
Arizona	11,571	41,956	53,527
Utah	9,397	3,139	12,536
Nevada	3,456	583	4,039
Washington	17,698	25,541	43,239
Oregon	17,485	12,311	29,796
California	87,229	137,752	224,981
United States	1,407,383	1,310,224	2,717,607

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	January 1960	February 1960
CASH RECEIPTS:	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	2,717	2,100
Livestock and products	1,407	1,300
Meat animals	791	
Dairy products	381	
Poultry and eggs	208	
Other	27	
Crops	1,310	800
Food grains	147	
Feed crops	389	
Cotton (lint and seed)	268	
Oil-bearing crops	97	
Tobacco	63	
Vegetables	128	
Fruits and tree nuts	101	
Other	117	
Government payments	51	
Grand total	2,768	
	1947-49 = 100	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities	131	100
Livestock and products	125	117
Crops	139	79

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1959 average	1,040	399	641	38%
1959 Jan.	1,048	412	636	39%
1959 Dec.	1,032	383	649	37%
1960 Jan.	1,030	386	644	38%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

2 Percent More Early Lambs

Early lamb numbers in the principal early lamb States are up about 2 percent from a year ago, based on March 1 reports. Number of breeding ewes was up 5 percent but the proportion lambing early was below a year earlier. Early lamb States include Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Idaho, Arizona, Washington, Oregon, California and Texas.

Drop In Feeder Cattle Shipments, Sheep and Lamb Shipments Up

Stocker and feeder cattle and calves shipped into 8 selected North Central States during February totaled 269,605 head, a 7 percent decrease from shipments a year earlier. Sheep and lambs shipped into these States totaled 160,316 head, up 5 percent from year earlier shipments.

Food Marketing Firms Pay Big Tax Total

Taxes paid by food marketing corporations in 1956 (latest year for which data are available) amounted to about 1.6 billion dollars, 68 percent more than the 1947-49 average. A major part of these taxes (62 percent) were Federal income taxes. For further details, ask for "Magnitude of Taxes in Marketing Food Products," AMS-364, a reprint from the January 1960 Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Reports and publications issued regularly by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service are listed in a new booklet entitled "Periodic Reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service". If you want a free copy, address Marketing Information Division, AMS, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.